



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

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12 May 1988

Dr. P. Rafferty
Sun Newspaper of Lincoln, Inc.
2145 North Cotner
Lincoln, Nebraska 68505

Dear Dr. Rafferty,

Judge Webster appreciated your kindness in forwarding William Hamilton's column titled "Lil' Orphan Agency," and asked me to let you know that. The column very succinctly describes the problems we face in countering the often outrageous charges that are made against us, and makes an interesting point regarding our lack of a natural constituency such as our military services have. We at CIA appreciate those who understand our dilemma, and are willing to share their views with others.

Sincerely,

William M. Baker
William M. Baker

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William A. Hamilton is a nationally syndicated columnist, free-lance writer and lecturer.

He also serves as president of Advanced Research Institute (ARI) — a consulting firm serving clients from Wall Street to Main Street.

Currently, "Central View" is syndicated jointly by American Press Syndicate and ARI. "Central View" appears each week in as many as 450 newspapers across America. If you like satire, you will like "Central View" and see why Bill Hamilton is known as "the conservative Art Buchwald."

Dr. Hamilton draws his material from living over ten years in Europe and Asia where he served the United States in a number of capacities, both in and out of uniform.

During a 20-year military career, Colonel Hamilton was a combat infantry officer serving in a variety of intelligence, command and joint-service assignments. He was awarded the Silver Star, the Distinguished Flying Cross, four Bronze Stars, the Purple Heart and over 20 other U.S. and foreign decorations.

He served two years in Vietnam where he commanded a rifle company, served as a battalion operations officer and as the G3 Operations Officer of the famed 1st Air Cavalry Division.

Dr. Hamilton has served on the faculties of the University of Maryland, Columbia College and Nebraska Wesleyan University. He holds degrees from the University of Oklahoma, the George Washington University and the University of Nebraska. In addition, he did post-doctoral work at Harvard University.

During election years, ARI is heavily involved in political research and campaign strategy development.

Dr. Hamilton is married to Dr. Penny Rafferty Hamilton, Executive Vice President of ARI, who is a noted writer, seminar leader and radio-television personality.

This is a complimentary copy of "Central View." If you are interested in seeing "Central View" on a regular basis in your local paper or by direct subscription, contact:

Advanced Research Institute

1222 Research Road

take advantage of you if you don't know what you're getting into. They never came back. They took the

to keep from getting ripped off.
"Find out if the contractor has

must
dam-
bers. **mm**

Central View

by William A. Hamilton, Ph.D.



LIL' ORPHAN AGENCY

Last week I met a woman who has reduced the mysteries of life to the notion that the CIA is responsible for all the world's woes. Her premise was this: secret, intelligence-gathering organizations are evil, per se.

Having spent some time working in the vineyards of the world's second oldest profession, I began to ponder why this person would hold this view and hold it so strongly?

Then it dawned on me that the CIA has no natural constituency or lobby to sustain and support it.

Conversely, the military has millions of moms and dads who proudly support all those millions of sons and daughters who proudly wear those colorful uniforms.

Thus, our boys and girls in uniform have a constituent group — a cheering section, if you will — that supports and sustains them.

We like having roads, bridges, utilities, telephones, airports, all the infrastructure activities we almost take for granted. Because the usefulness of these facilities and services is so readily apparent we users form a cheering section for those who provide them.

But pity the poor CIA. By design, the vast majority of American taxpayers do not know or understand what the CIA does. For, if we did, it would not be a secret organization.

And, if one does not know or understand what a particular government agency is doing, it is pretty easy not to like those folks. Besides, why do they have to be a secret organization, anyway?

The truth is we would rather not have any secret organizations. And, in a perfect world, we would not. However, the world is not perfect and no great power can survive very long unless it has a pretty good idea of what is happening or about to happen.

Like it or not, we must have a means to gather the information available from open sources and the information those who wish us ill would keep from us. And, having gathered all this data and processed it into a product called intelligence, one would be pretty silly to then throw open the doors of our intelligence libraries and invite everyone in to see what we have collected.

For that reason, the CIA is a secret organization. It must keep secret the means it uses to collect the data and it must keep secret the intelligence it produces from that data.

As government agencies go, the CIA is relatively small. The moms and dads who spawned its employees often think their sons and daughters are employees of some other government agency.

How can you have a cheering squad when no one knows who is on the team or even that there is a team?

Moreover, it is now standard procedure for every apprehended terrorist, thug, or criminal of virtually any nationality to claim: I was trained or equipped or trained by the CIA. This is sheer nonsense but it works because the CIA's response, like that of every other intelligence agency worth its salt, is: no comment.

This makes the CIA the world's fall guy for any misdeeds performed by anyone, anywhere. It just comes with the territory.

We bury our military dead with great public ceremony and we honor them with great monuments and beautifully kept cemeteries. And, they deserve it. But to learn of the fallen heroes of the CIA, one must gain entrance to CIA headquarters. Ironically, the KGB has a far better idea of how many CIA agents have died in "combat" than does the average American citizen.

Next time you hear someone vilify the CIA, think a moment about the harsh realities of their situation. They perform a needed service rather well while suffering the lack of anyone to cheer them on.

No wonder those members of Congress who find little fault with the Gorbachevs, Castros, Ho Chi Minhs, and Ortegas have been able to gut what was once the world's finest intelligence agency.

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Judge Webster

Thought the employees of the
CIA might appreciate this column.

Dr. J. Lafferty
Sun Columnist